GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4632
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2007
KAILASH MANSAROVAR YATRA
Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of people who undertook the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether the Nepal Tourism Board has offered special packages to the Indian Tourists visiting Kailash Mansarovar;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether there is a long pending demand to restart flights between Mumbai-Kathmandu; and

(e) if so, the action taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

(a) Pilgrims who performed the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra organised by Kumaon Mandal Vikas Nigam during the last three years is as follows:

Year	No. of Pilgrims
2004	537
2005	529
2006	592

(b)-(c) Nepal Tourism Board seeks to promote Nepal as a route to visit Kailash Mansarovar. Private travel agencies in Nepal offer packages for visit by Indian pilgrims to Kailash Mansarovar.

(d)-(e) Mumbai-Kathmandu sector is among the approved routes in terms of bilateral arrangements between the two countries. It is for the designated air carriers of the two countries to select routes to operate.